



3 SEP
\$2.95
Mature
Readers

EL TINCIONERS



AFTER RESCUING PHENIX, THE SOLAR FOXES AND KATHERINE FIND THEMSELVES SURROUNDED ...



... BY THE UNDERGROUND SLAVE CAMP'S ROBOTIC GUARDS.

SEPARATED FROM THE REST OF THE GROUP, PHENIX IS FORCED ..



.. TO TELEPORT SCARLET, ERICA AND KATHERINE TO SAFETY.

LEAVING RED, ARTICA, AND SLY TO BE CAPTURED BY THEIR ALIEN FOES.



SCARLET AND KATHERINE GET INTO AN ALTERCATION AT THE HOME OF ONE OF PHENIX'S ALLIES.



.. PHENIX INTERVENES, AND THEY AGREE TO A TRUCE.



AT THE CAMP, PANDORA AND CEE CEE HELP RED ESCAPE

... ONLY TO BE CAPTURED AGAIN!



COUNT-DOWN TO EXTINCTION

PART 4

CREATED/STORY/PENCILS

BY :

SHAWN TAE HOWARD

INKS BY : SARA PALMER

LETTERING BY : FENDER

& CAROLE CURTIS


ONCE AGAIN UNITED,
— AND AFTER A QUICK
UNIFORM CHANGE — THEY
SEARCH FOR A WAY
TO SET THE
ENTIRE CAMP FREE .

I HAVE
CONFIDENCE IN CEE CEE'S
JUDGEMENT.

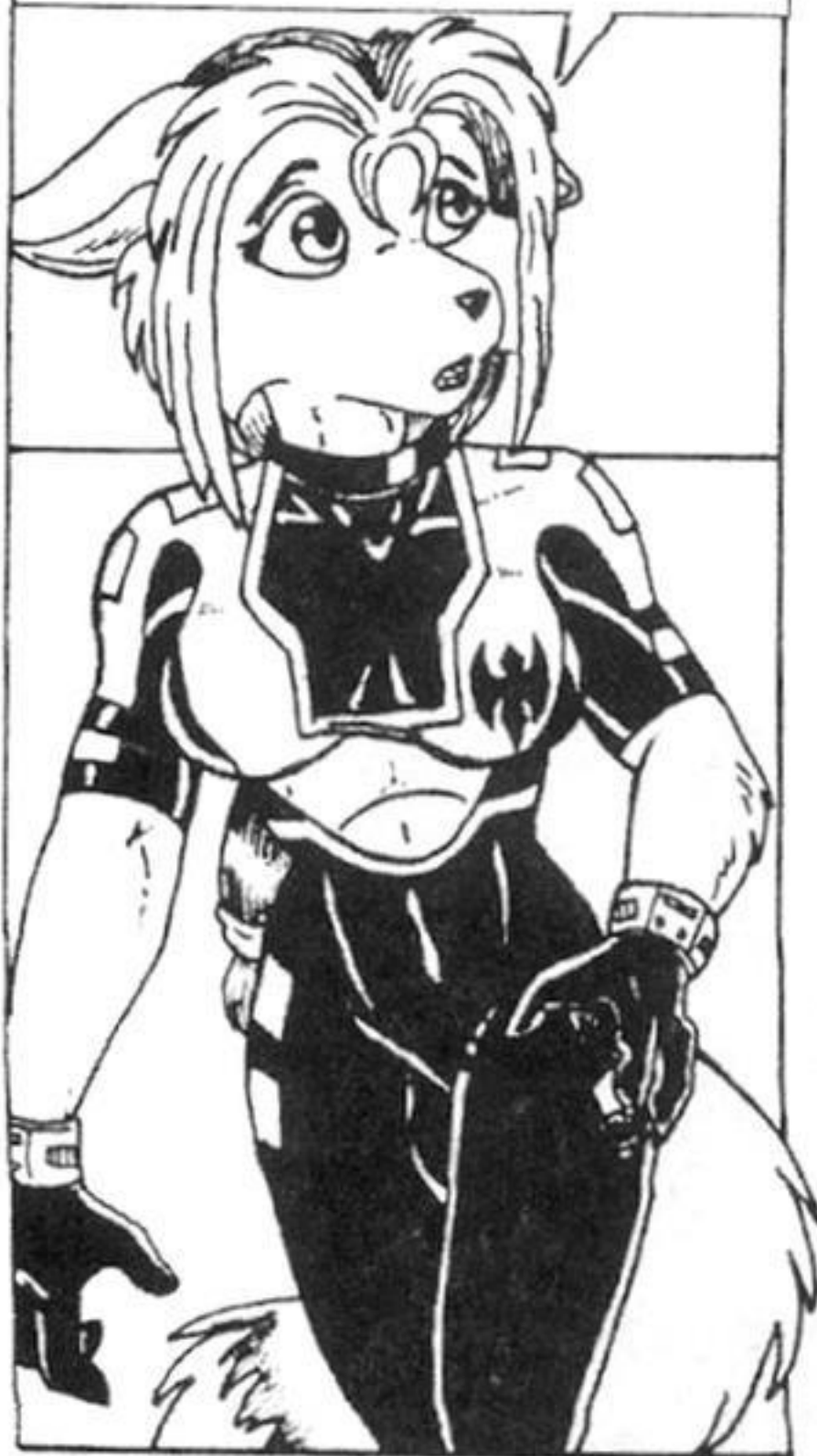
YES.
I READ WHAT LITTLE MIND
THAT CYBORG HAD, AND IT SAID THAT THE WAY
TO THE MAIN COMMAND CENTER IS THIS WAY .

(I THINK.)

ARE YOU
SURE YOU KNOW WHERE
WE'RE GOING ?



SHE THINKS! GREAT, A
MINDSWIPER WHO HAS TO GUESS.
I DON'T LIKE THIS. WE SHOULD
HAVE BEEN SPOTTED BY NOW.



SCARLETT'S RIGHT.
WE SHOULD HAVE
BEEN SPOTTED BY
NOW.

NO WAY THEY DON'T KNOW WE'RE WALKING AROUND FREE.



SHH, EVERYONE. I HEAR
SOMETHING UP AHEAD.

WHAT ARE THEY DOING TO THAT POOR CREATURE?

HA HA HA!
LOOK AT THAT, CLEAN AS
A WHISTLE.



HOLD HIM STILL,
SO I CAN FINISH
THE JOB.

NO!
PLEASE STOP!
LET ME GO!

I'M NOT GOING
TO STAND HERE AND
WATCH THIS.



RED!



MORE ROBOTS. DOES THIS MEAN THE MAKERS ARE MACHINES?



TO BE HONEST,
RIGHT NOW I COULDN'T CARE LESS. HEY, BUDDY,
ARE YOU OKAY?

BY ELDON, NO! HOW COULD I BE?



FIRST, THEY DESTROY
MY WORLD - THEN MY PEOPLE. NOW
THEY'VE STOLEN THE ONLY THING LEFT
- MY HONOR. WHAT IS A WARRIOR
WITHOUT HIS MANE?



NOW, COME ON!
WE HAVE A WORLD TO SAVE AND CRITTERS
TO SET FREE. TIME IS RUNNING
OUT!



OOF!

PLEASE,
LET THIS
BE A
WALL!



OOH, HI. IT'S YOU.



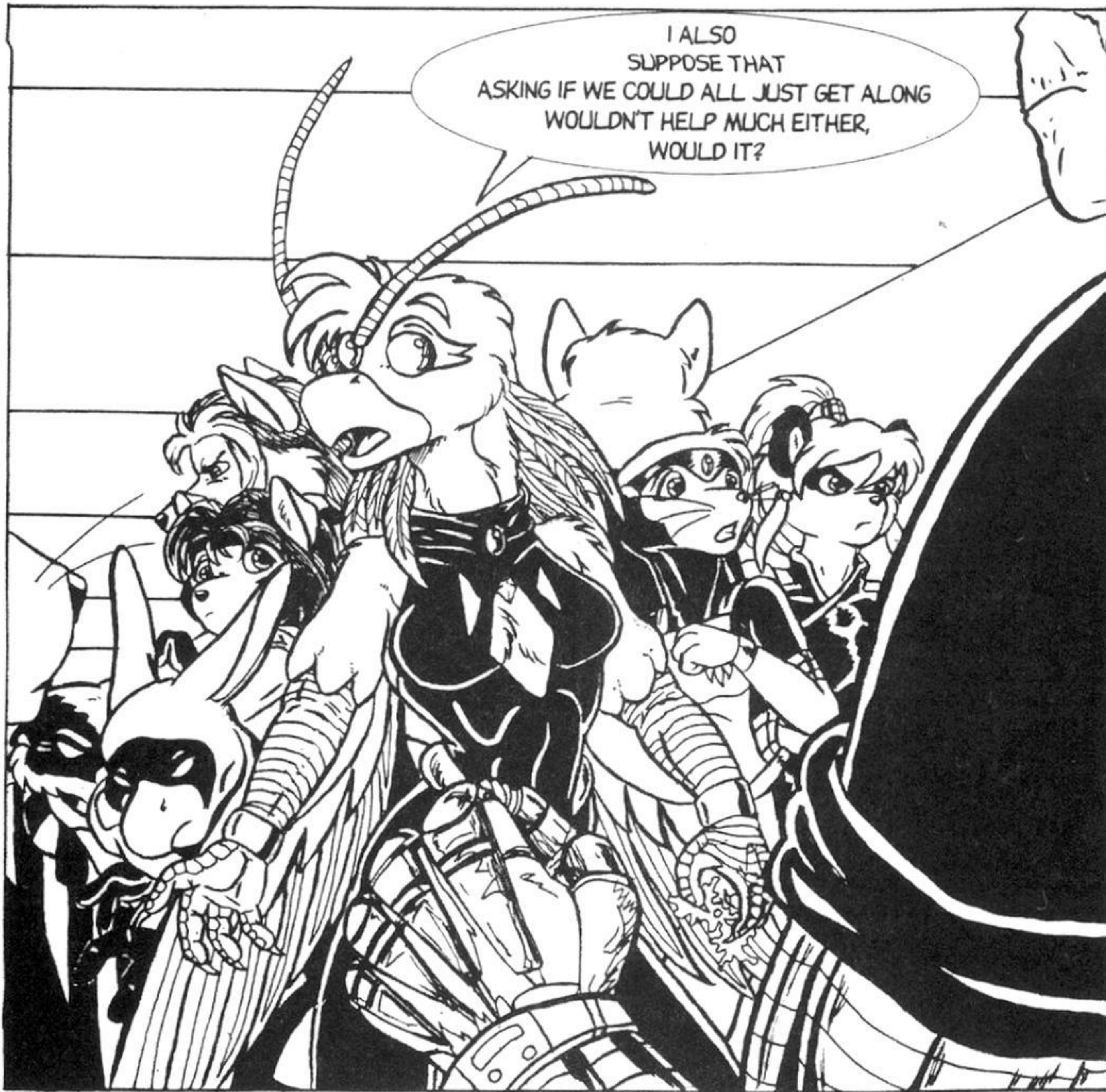
I WOULDN'T SUPPOSE YOU'D FORGET YOU
SAW US AND LET US GO ON OUR WAY,
WOULD YOU?

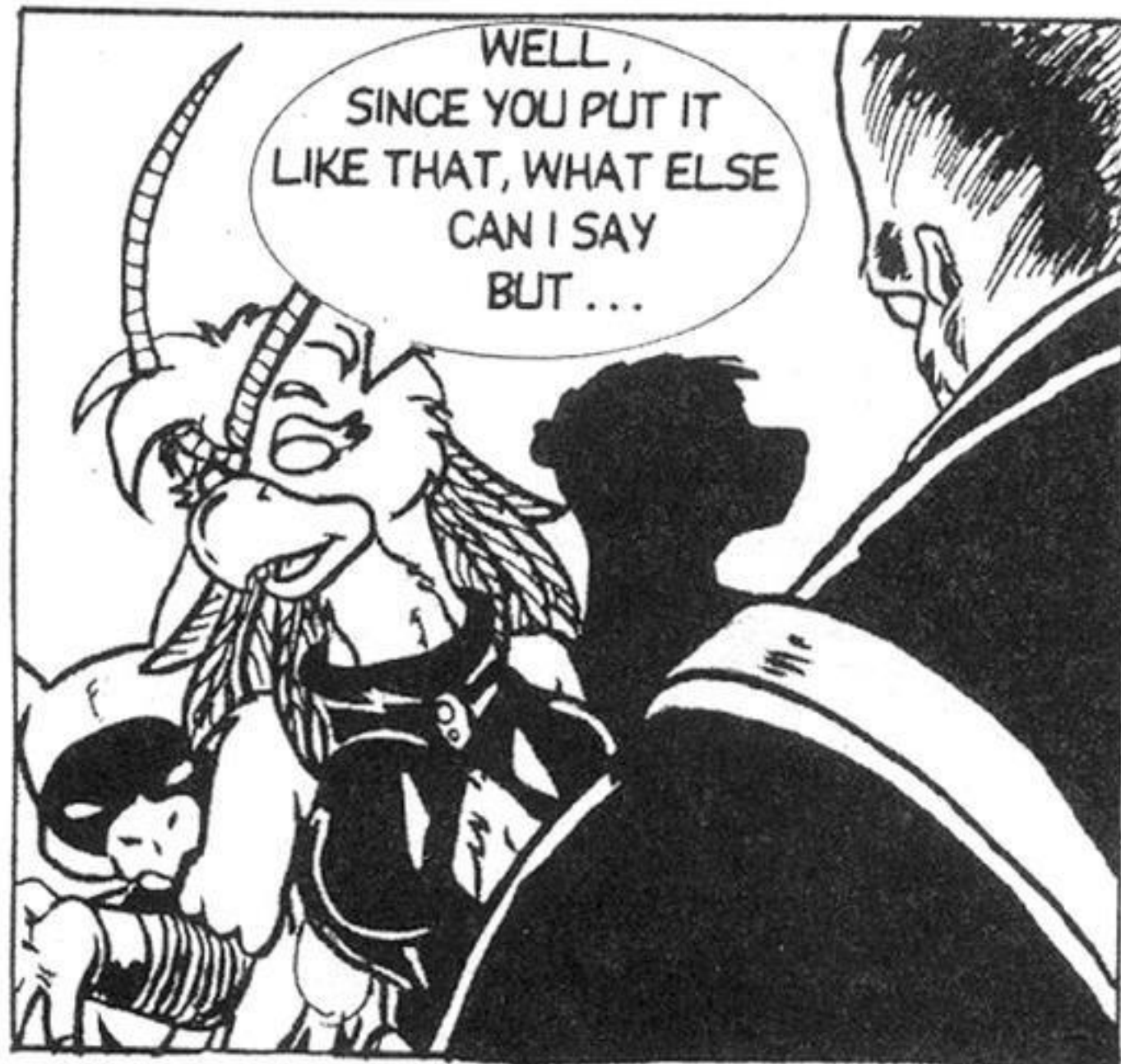
NO.



NUTS!









HUNTERS, TAKE THEM!



QUICK, EVERYONE SCATTER! DON'T LET 'EM BOX US IN!



WHY DON'T YOU ---
CHILL OUT, SCARLET!



I'VE BEEN
WAITING FOR A LONG TIME
TO DO THIS, SCARLET! I
NEVER DID LIKE
YOU.



WITH YOU OUT
OF THE WAY... RED WILL FINALLY
BE MINE!

GIVE IT UP, COUSIN! YOU'RE NO MATCH FOR US.



SLY, YOU HAVE TO STOP THIS BEFORE
SOMEONE GETS HURT!



WHAT
THE
?!



DON'T WORRY
RED. YOU
WON'T BE
HURTING
ANYONE
!!!

CATRINA!

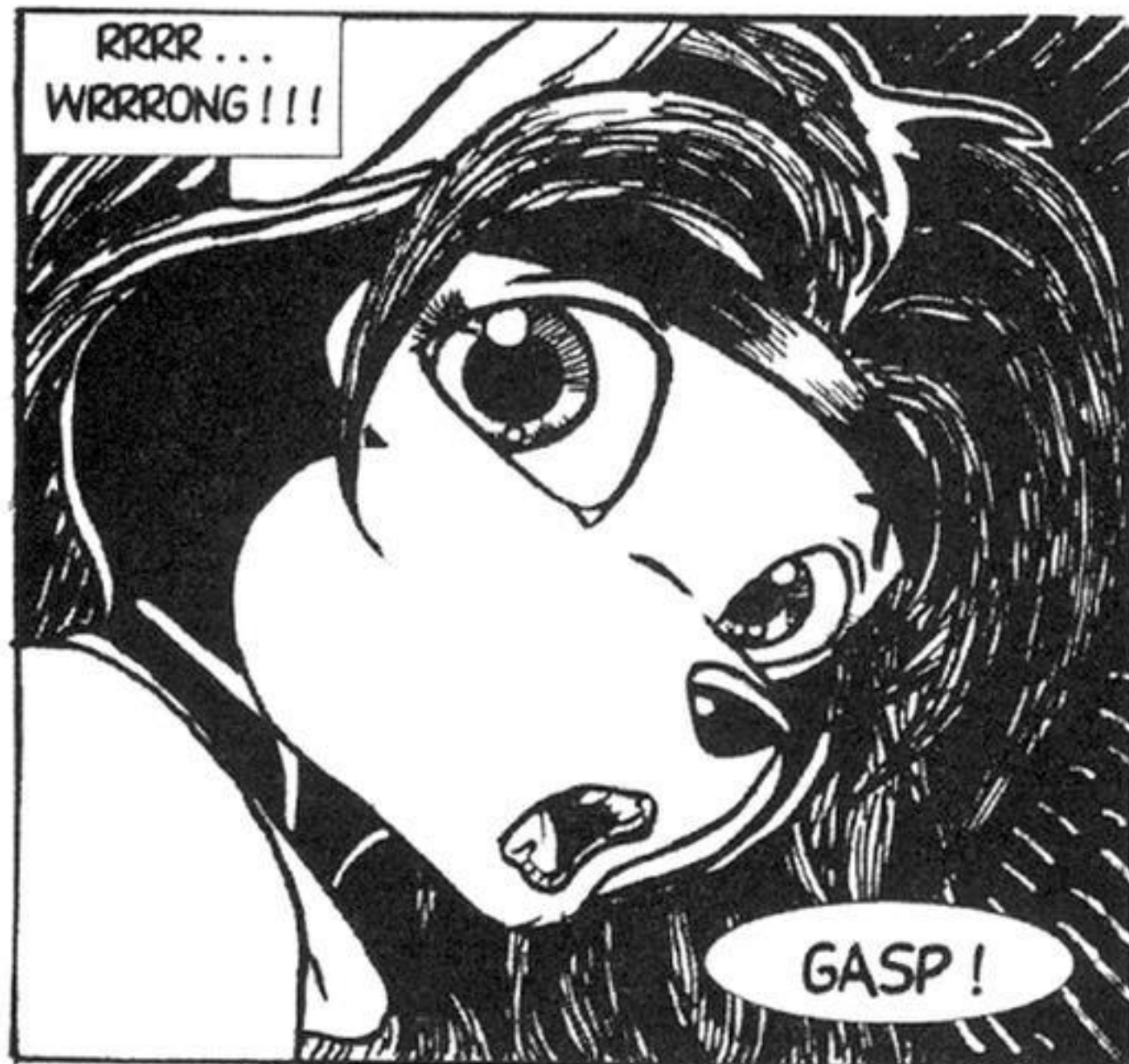
IT'S ME,

KATHERINE.

WHERE ARE YOU?
COME ON, CAT.

WE DON'T HAVE
MUCH TIME!





WALICE, WHAT'S
GOING ON? WHY
ARE YOU WITH
THEM?



BLAST IT, CEE CEE! I TOLD YOU



OW,
MY
ARM!!

- TO WAIT FOR ME IN YOUR CELL
AND I'D FIND A WAY TO GET YOU
OUT. NOW YOU'RE RUINING
EVERYTHING!

WHY DO YOU HAVE
TO BE SUCH A
STUBBORN FEMALE?



SLAP!

WAY TO GO, KID. BUT LET ME SHOW YOU HOW A REAL MALE
HANDLES HIS FEMALE.



BLAQUESTYPE, NO!

CEE CEE... LOOK OUT!



NO, YOU
STUPID
PANDA!
I WASN'T
GOING
TO

DO - NOTHING TRAITOR! HE CAN SHARE THEIR FATE.



OUR MISSION IS COMPLETE, MASTER.



THE TARGETS PUT UP LITTLE RESISTANCE. WE NOW AWAIT FURTHER ORDERS.

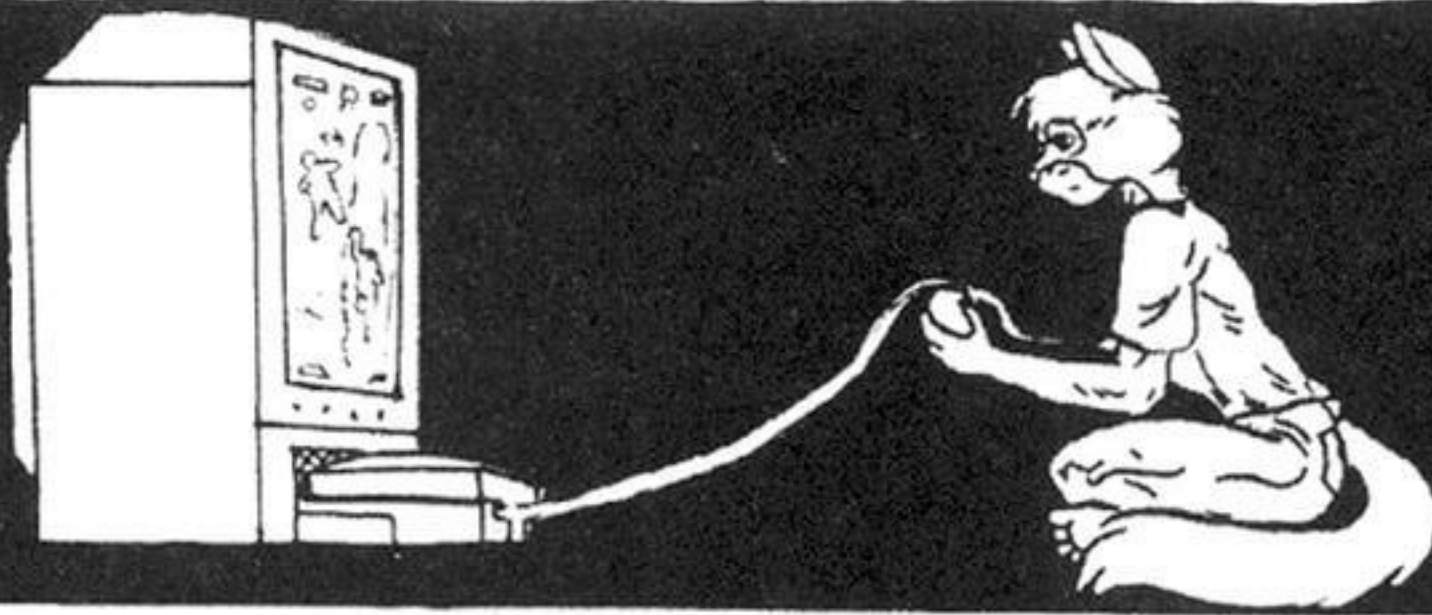
EXCELLENT, WARFARE. YOUR PROGRAMMING RAN WITH FLAWLESS EXECUTION.



YES... MASTER.



TAKE THEM TO A HOLDING CELL AND HAVE THE MINDSWIPER ROOM PREPARED. I WILL NOT HAVE THIS... FREE THINKING INTERFERING WITH MY PLANS.



TRAVIS?



HEY, TRAVIS....
WHAT ARE YOU
DOING?

CAN YOU
HEAR ME?
GASP!



IT'S YOUR FAULT WE'RE
ALL DEAD, KAT!

IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN YOU!
BECAUSE YOU WERE A COWARD,
WE'RE DEAD. YOU RAN, AND
WE PAID THE PRICE.
IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN YOU!
IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN
YOU!



NOO!
IT SHOULD
HAVE
BEEN
ME!





IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN ME.

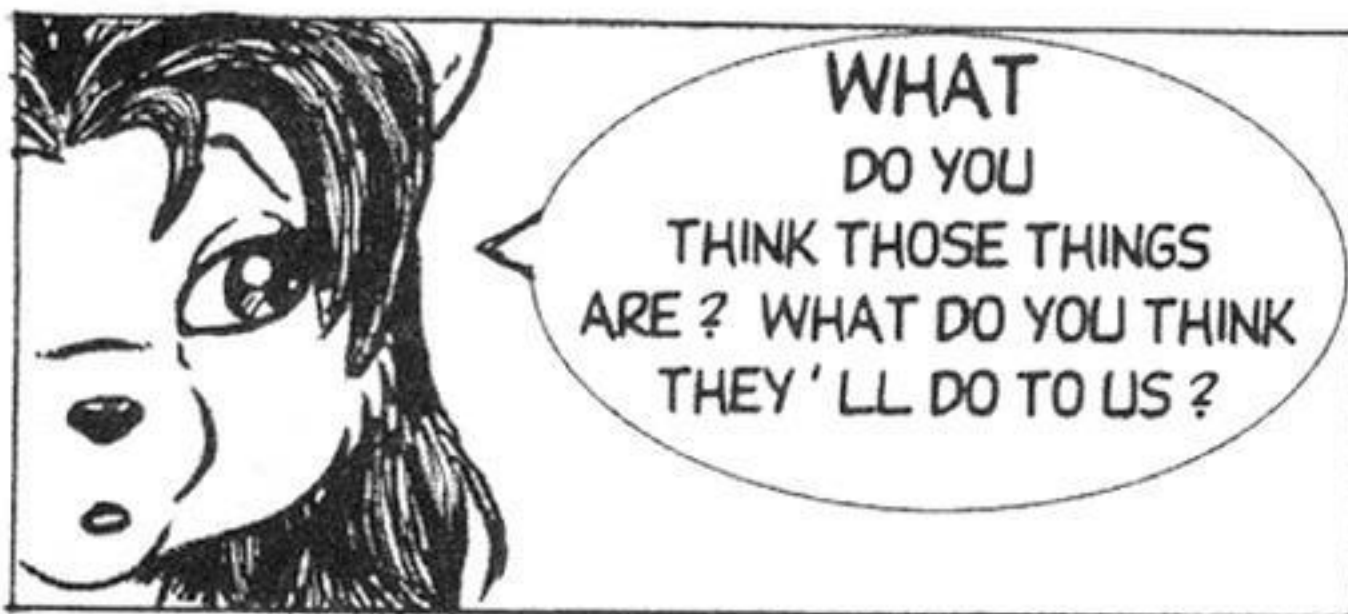
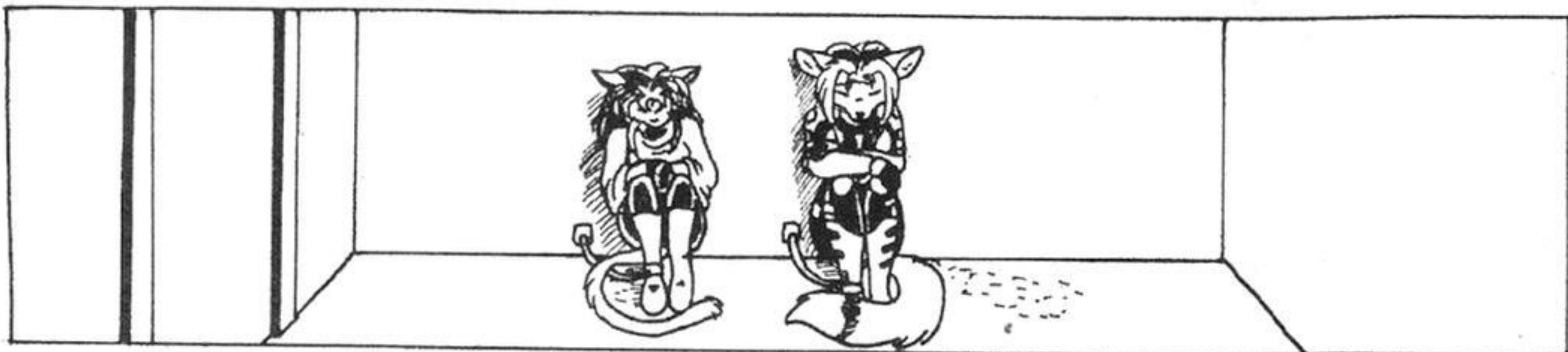
HEY, ARE YOU OKAY?

NO. I'M HUNGRY. I'M TIRED. I'M SCARED, AND I MISS MY FAMILY.



SIGH...

I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN. PUH! SOME SUPER HEROES WE TURNED OUT TO BE!



WHAT DO YOU THINK THOSE THINGS ARE? WHAT DO YOU THINK THEY'LL DO TO US?

RED THINKS THEY MIGHT ACTUALLY BE THE MAKER, THE CREATOR OR CREATORS OF ALL. THOUGH I DON'T REMEMBER EVER READING ABOUT THEM BEING SO TICKED OFF BEFORE. AS FOR WHAT THEY'LL DO TO US...



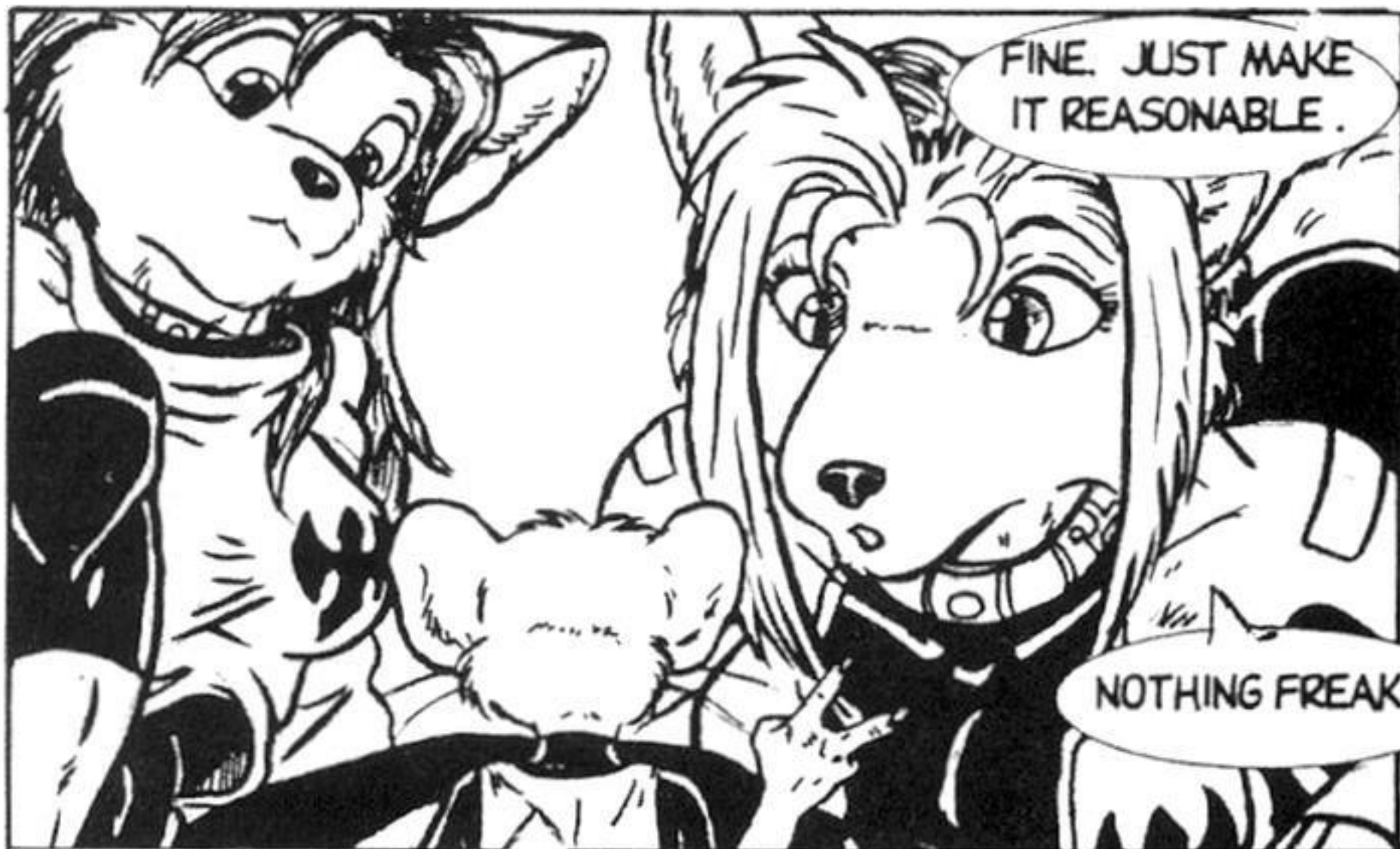
UM... EX... EXCUSE ME. UH, I MIGHT BE ABLE TO HELP YOU GET FREE.

WHO SAID THAT?

I DID.



I'M BIOMUTATE DESIGNATE MICRO. I CAN FREE YOU FROM YOUR RESTRAINT COLLARS, B... BUT YOU MUST MAKE A PROMISE. OKAY?



FINE. JUST MAKE IT REASONABLE.

NOTHING FREAKY.

OK. ONE, PROMISE TO TAKE ME WITH YOU AND TWO, DON'T EAT ME.

EEWW. GROSS!



WHY ON ALDEN WOULD WE WANT TO EAT YOU?

I'M SORRY. I'M JUST NOT USED TO BEING AROUND PREDATORS ON THIS WORLD. IT CAN BE DEADLY WHERE I'M FROM.



WHAT DO YOU MEAN, WHERE YOU'RE FROM? HOW DID YOU KNOW WE WERE IN HERE? COME...



... TO THINK ABOUT IT, YOU'RE THE SMALLEST RODENTIAN I'VE EVER SEEN.

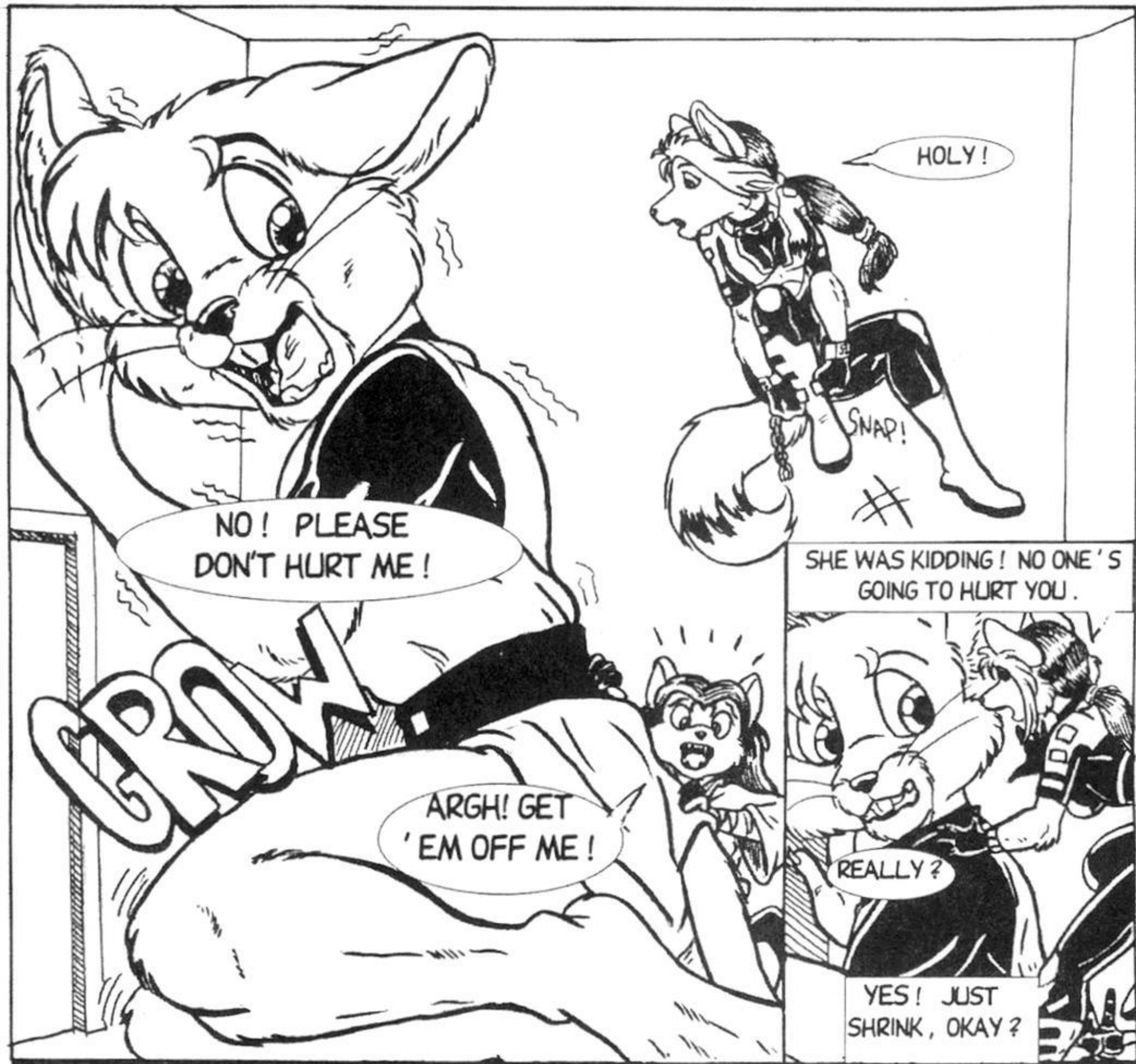
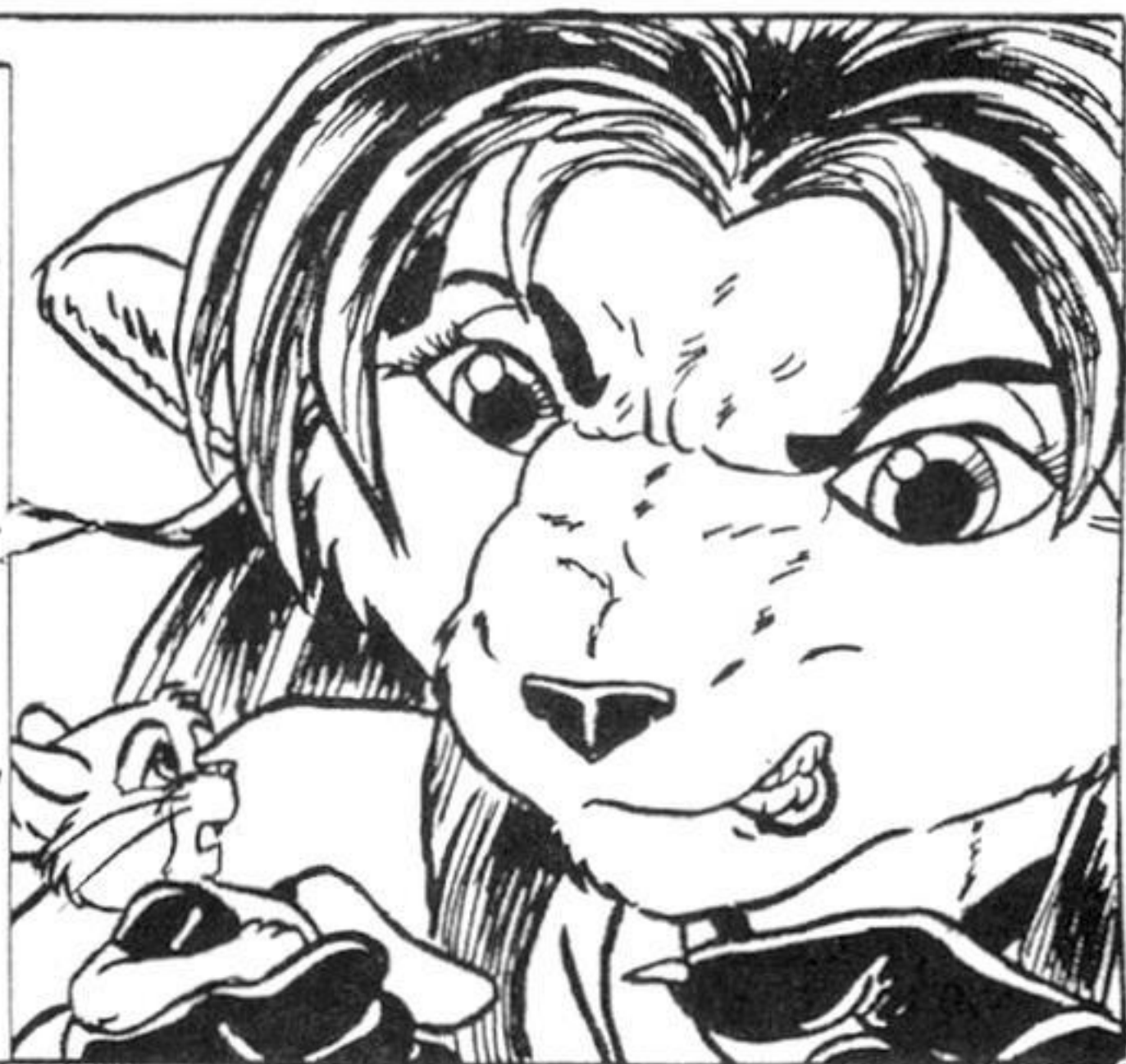
I'M NOT A NATIVE OF THIS WORLD. I'M A GENETIC MUTATE, DESIGNED AS AN ESPIONAGE COMPUTER TECH. I'VE BEEN FOLLOWING YOU SINCE YOU AND THE OTHER FOXES FREED THE PHOENIX.



YOU'RE A
SPY FOR
THEM!

HEY!

YOU
LITTLE
CHEESE EATER!
YOU'RE JUST
TRYING TO GET
IN GOOD WITH
YOUR MASTERS.
TELL US
WHERE THE
OTHERS ARE,
OR SO HELP ME,
I'LL... I'LL
EAT
YOU!



NO! PLEASE
DON'T HURT ME!

HOLY!

SNAP!

SHE WAS KIDDING! NO ONE'S
GOING TO HURT YOU.

ARGH! GET
'EM OFF ME!

REALLY?

YES! JUST
SHRINK, OKAY?



IT'S MAX!
MY PRE-MATE!*

*(BOYFRIEND)

THEY BROUGHT ME HERE,
USED A MINDSWIPER TO
ACTIVATE POWERS
I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW OF.



SO WHAT CAN YOU DO?



WELL, GRUNT, I CAN MAKE DUPLICATES OF
MYSELF. THINK I ALWAYS COULD. AS A KIT I
HAD AN IMAGINARY FRIEND - LOOKED LIKE ME.



OK, OK. SO
WE'RE AGREED
ON THE PLAN,
RIGHT?


I PRETEND TO TAKE YOU TO THE HOLDING AREA, WHILE MICRO SABOTAGES THE MAIN COMPUTER.



I
DON'T
LIKE
IT,
BUT
I'LL
DO
IT.



GOOD. LET'S GO.



EXCELLENT JOB,
WARFARE. JUST WHAT I LIKE
IN MY ANIMALS... TOTAL
OBEDIENCE

WHAT
WONDERFUL
DEVELOPMENTS
YOU HAVE ALL
BECOME. WE WOULD
NEVER HAVE FORESEEN
SUCH UNUSUAL
BIOLOGICAL —
ABNORMALITIES AS
YOU HYBRID D'S. ALL OF
YOUR POWERS MUST BE
STUDIED AND
ANALYSED.

BUT YOU, MY
DEAR, ARE
NOT ONE OF
OUR
CREATIONS.
YOU WILL
DEFINITELY
NEED TO BE
STUDIED.



PLUCK
OFF,
PINKY!

HMPH... IF NEED BE, MY CANARY.



WARFARE, HAVE BLAQUESTRYPE
PREPARE THE MINDSWIPER.



NO, MASTER!
PLEASE,
THE PAIN!



LEAVE HER
ALONE! WHAT KIND OF
MONSTER ARE
YOU?

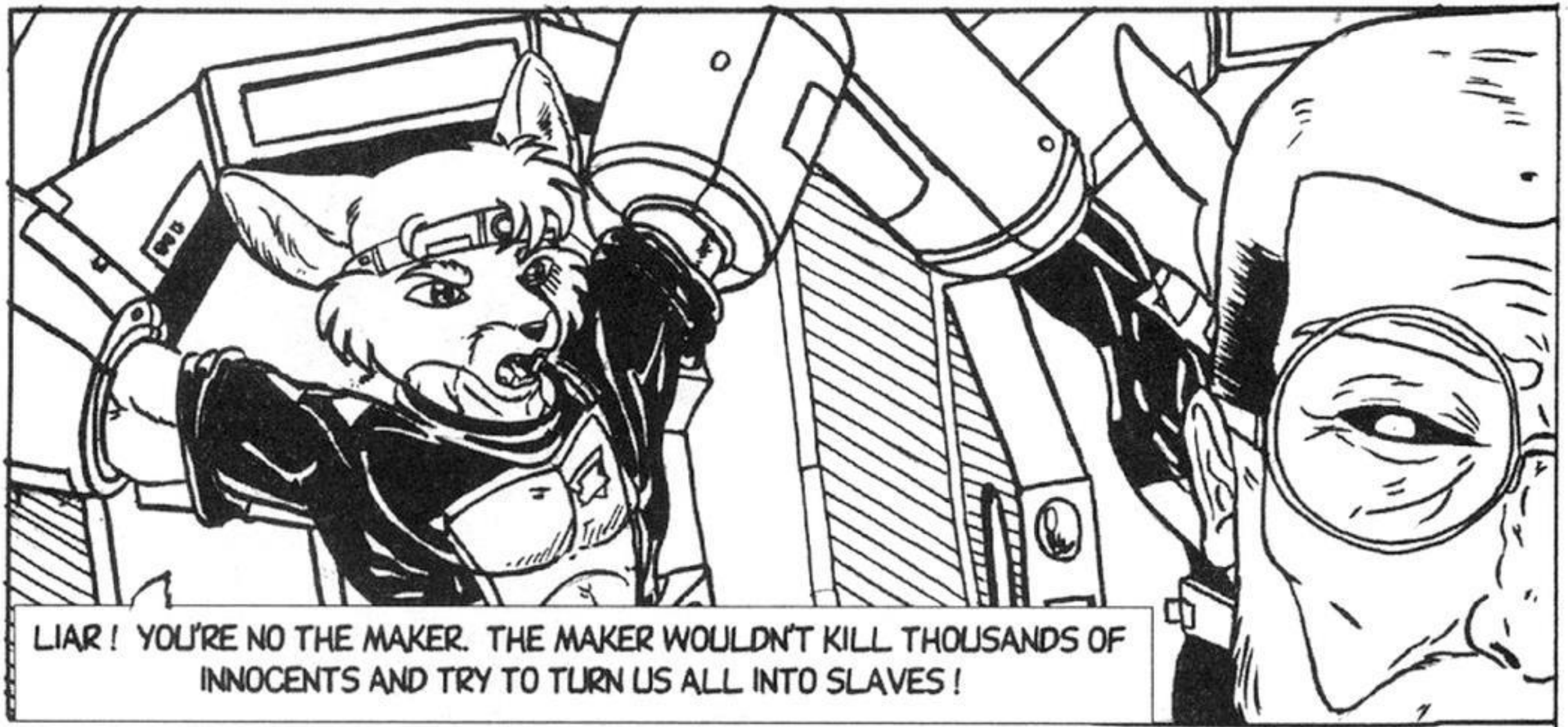


MONSTER, MY DEAR PANDA?
I'M NO MONSTER...

...I AM
NOAH ADAM MAHN. YOUR BETTER.
YOUR MASTER.



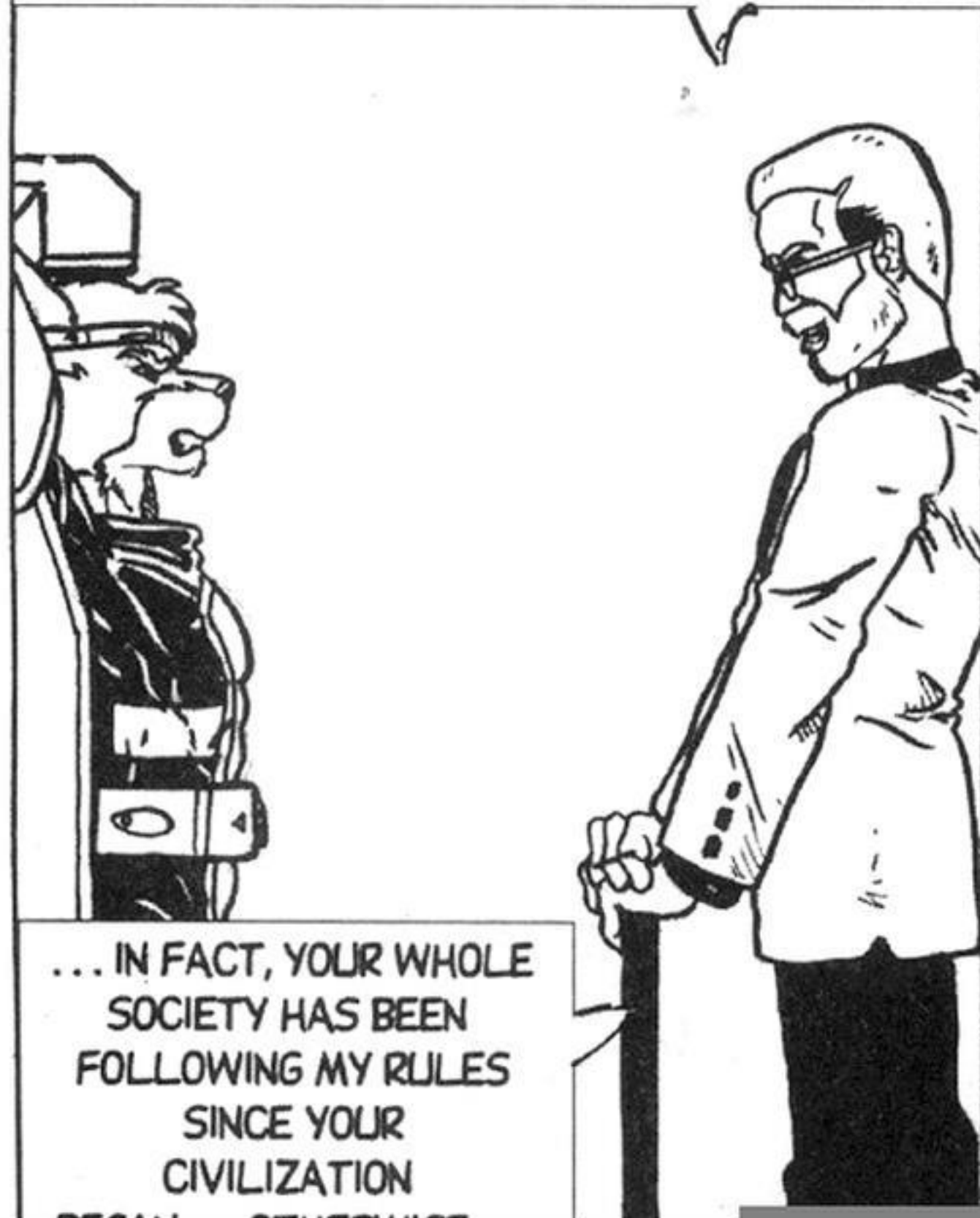
YOUR CREATOR!



LIAR! YOU'RE NO THE MAKER. THE MAKER WOULDN'T KILL THOUSANDS OF INNOCENTS AND TRY TO TURN US ALL INTO SLAVES!



WHY, MY YOUNG FOX... I HAVE. I DID. AND WHO'S TO SAY YOU WEREN'T ALREADY MY SLAVES?



... IN FACT, YOUR WHOLE SOCIETY HAS BEEN FOLLOWING MY RULES SINCE YOUR CIVILIZATION BEGAN. OTHERWISE

... HOW IS IT THAT YOU EVEN UNDERSTAND ME?



YOU NEVER QUESTIONED IT ? I DIDN'T THINK SO. YOU WEREN'T DESIGNED TO QUESTION WHY OR HOW. HERE'S A HISTORY LESSON.

APPROXIMATELY 72 YEARS AGO , OUR SCIENTISTS DISCOVERED A " WORMHOLE " SOME DISTANCE FROM THE PLANET WE CALL MARS .

WE SENT A PROBE TO INVESTIGATE . WE DISCOVERED A PLANET IN THE PLACE EARTH, MY HOME, SHOULD HAVE BEEN, BUT SLIGHTLY OFF - ORBIT.

IT WAS A TIMELY DISCOVERY. FOR EARTH HAD BEEN DEPLETED OF IT'S NATURAL RESOURCES ...

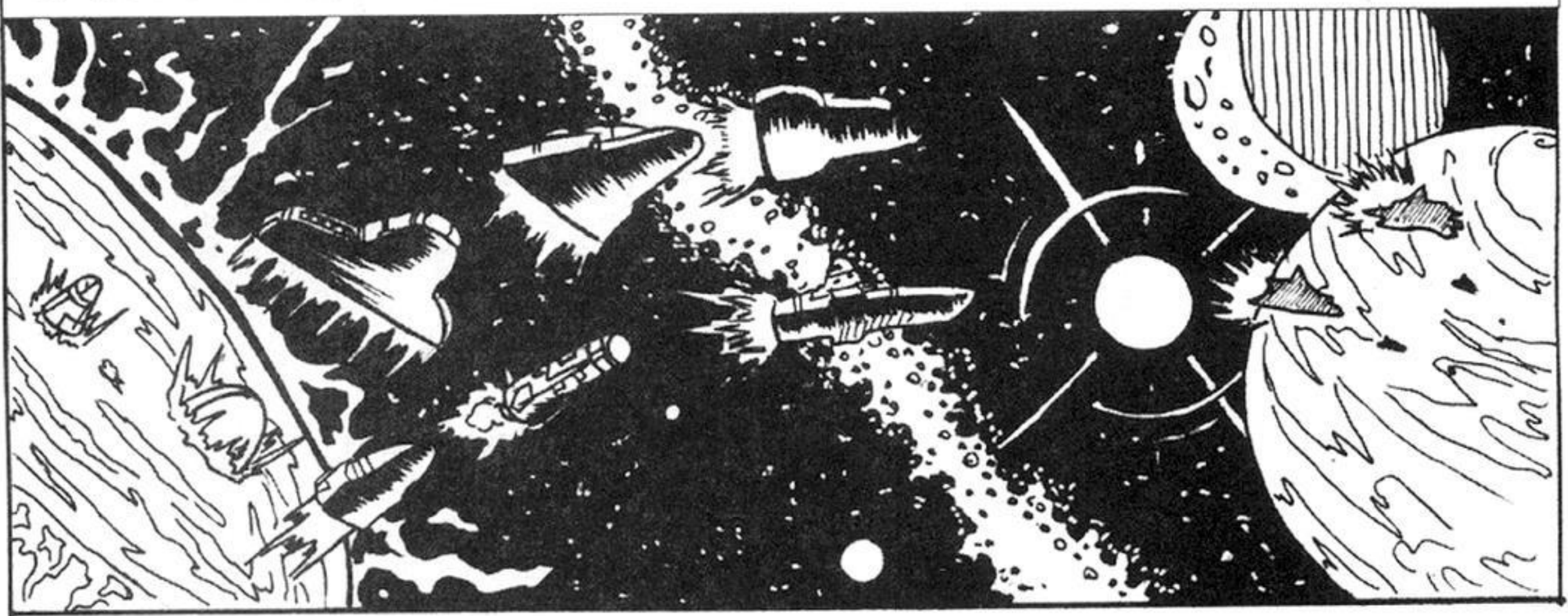
CLEAN AIR ; WAS OVERPOPU-
LATED AND WAR - RAVAGED.

THAT'S WHERE YOUR KIND CAME IN . DUE TO HUMAN OVERPOPULATION , ANIMALS LOST LIVING SPACE . SPECIES WERE BECOMING EXTINCT. IN ORDER TO SAVE THE SPECIES

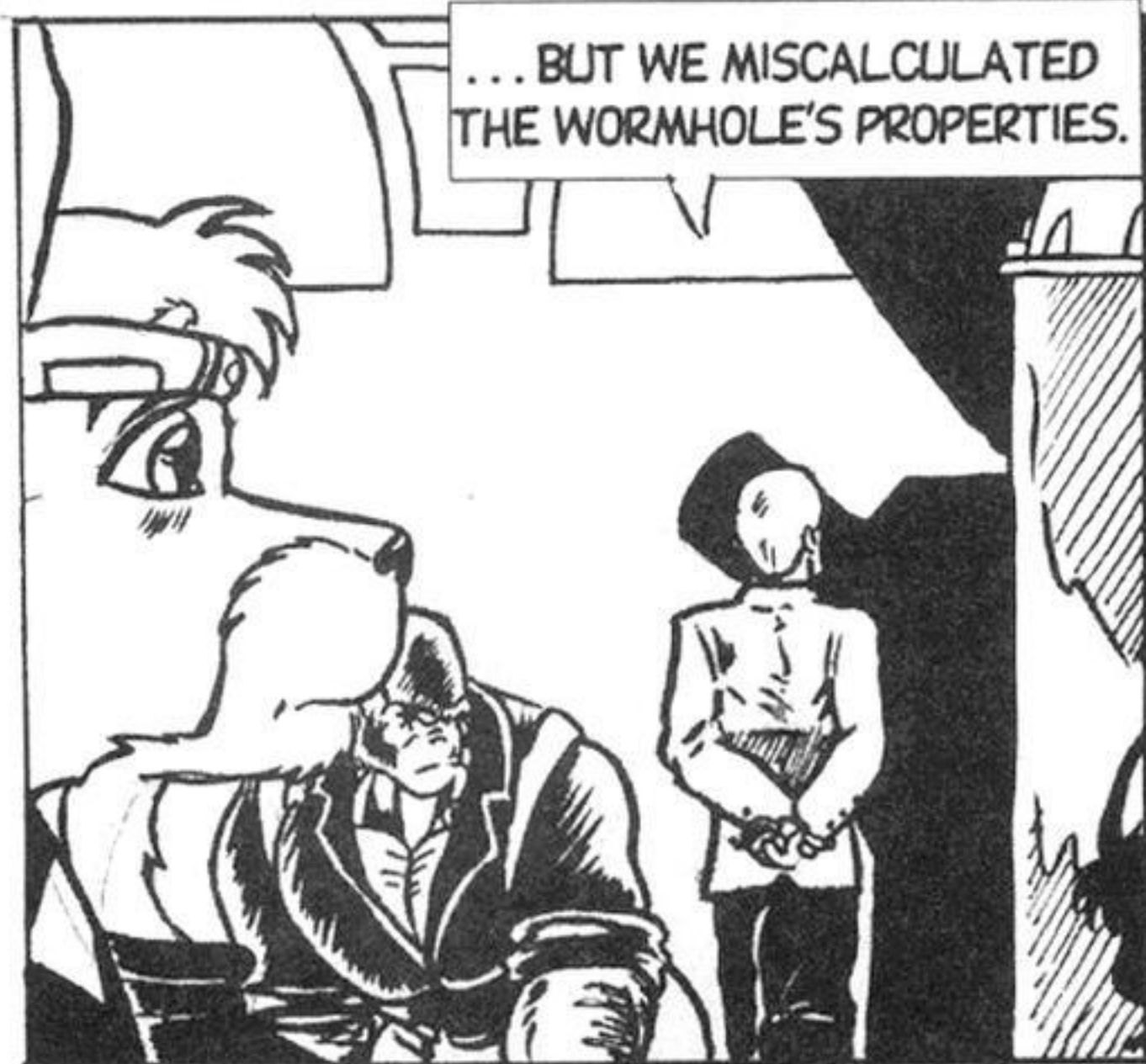
... WE MUTATED THEM , MADE THEM MORE ADAPTABLE AND USEFUL .

WE WANTED THE NEW PLANET TO BE COLONIZED . HOWEVER, WE FELT IT WAS TOO RISKY TO SEND HUMANS TO LIVE THERE FIRST . THUS , WE CREATED HUMANIMALS , AND PROGRAMMED THEM TO ESTABLISH SOCIETIES FOR OUR ARRIVAL .

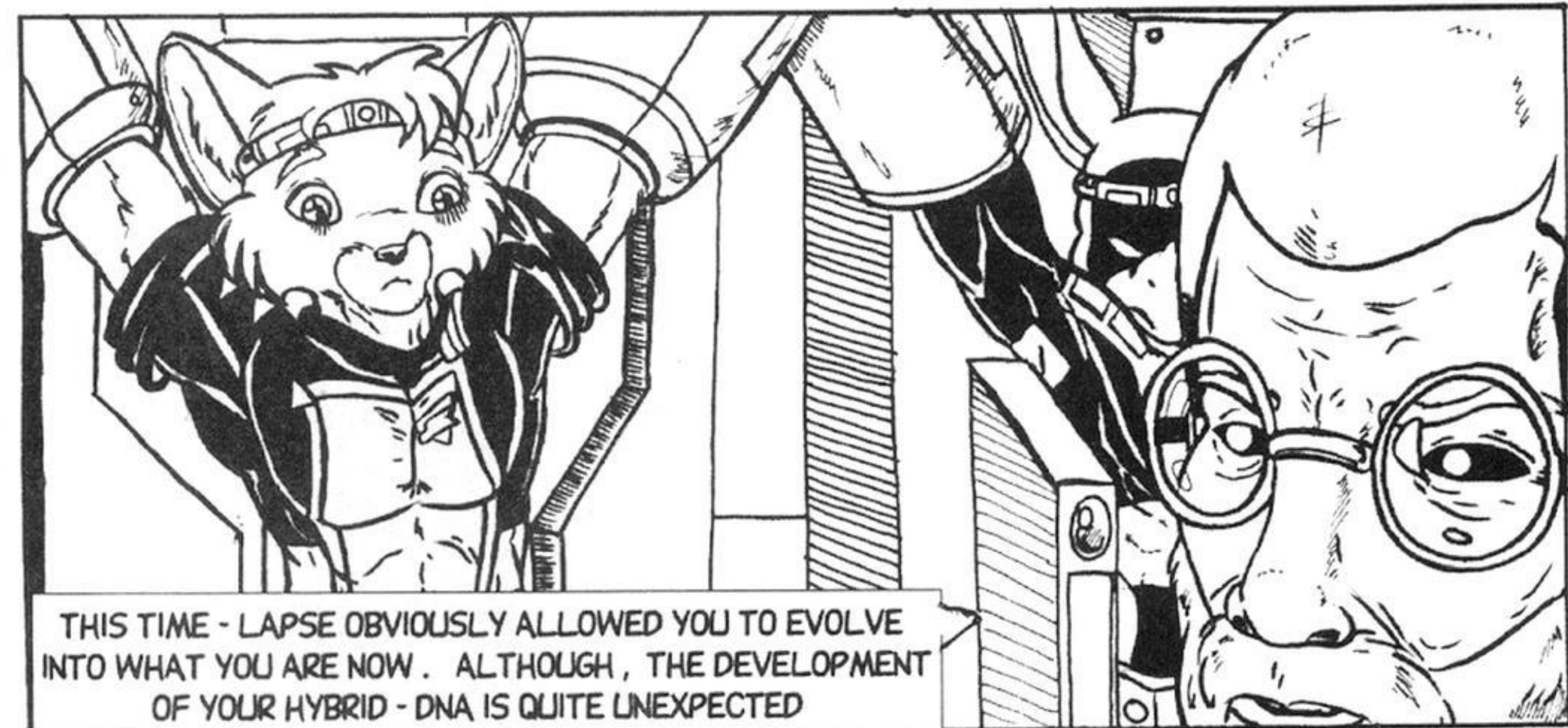
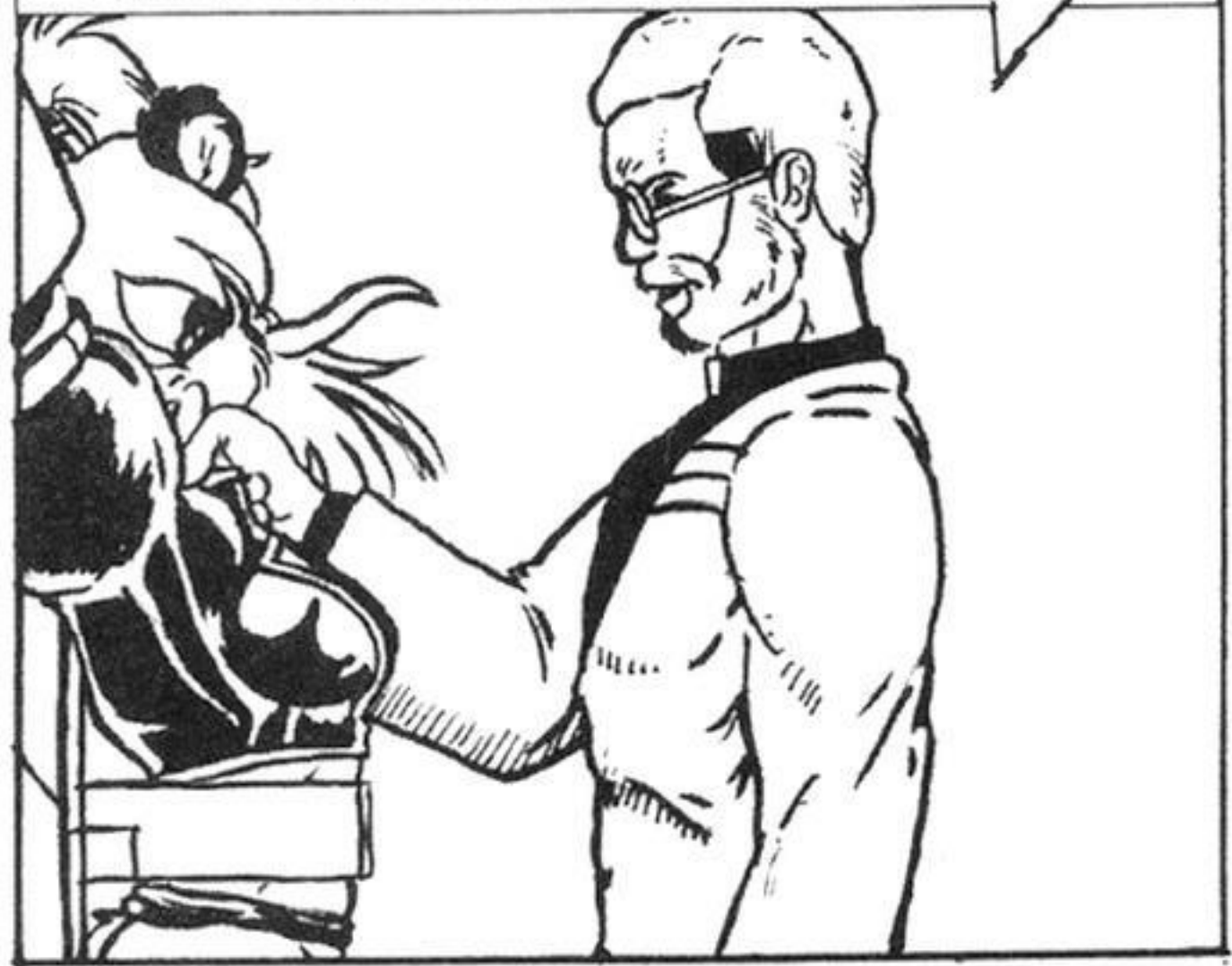
WE ENCODED SPECIFIC PROGRAMS : BUILD CITIES , SET UP GOVERNMENT STRUCTURES SO OUR TRANSITION TO THE PLANET WOULD RUN SMOOTHLY . THEN WE SHIPPED OUR LIVESTOCK .



... BUT WE MISCALCULATED THE WORMHOLE'S PROPERTIES.



APPARENTLY, THERE IS A TIME DIFFERENTIAL OF FOURTEEN YEARS HERE TO ONE YEAR THERE .



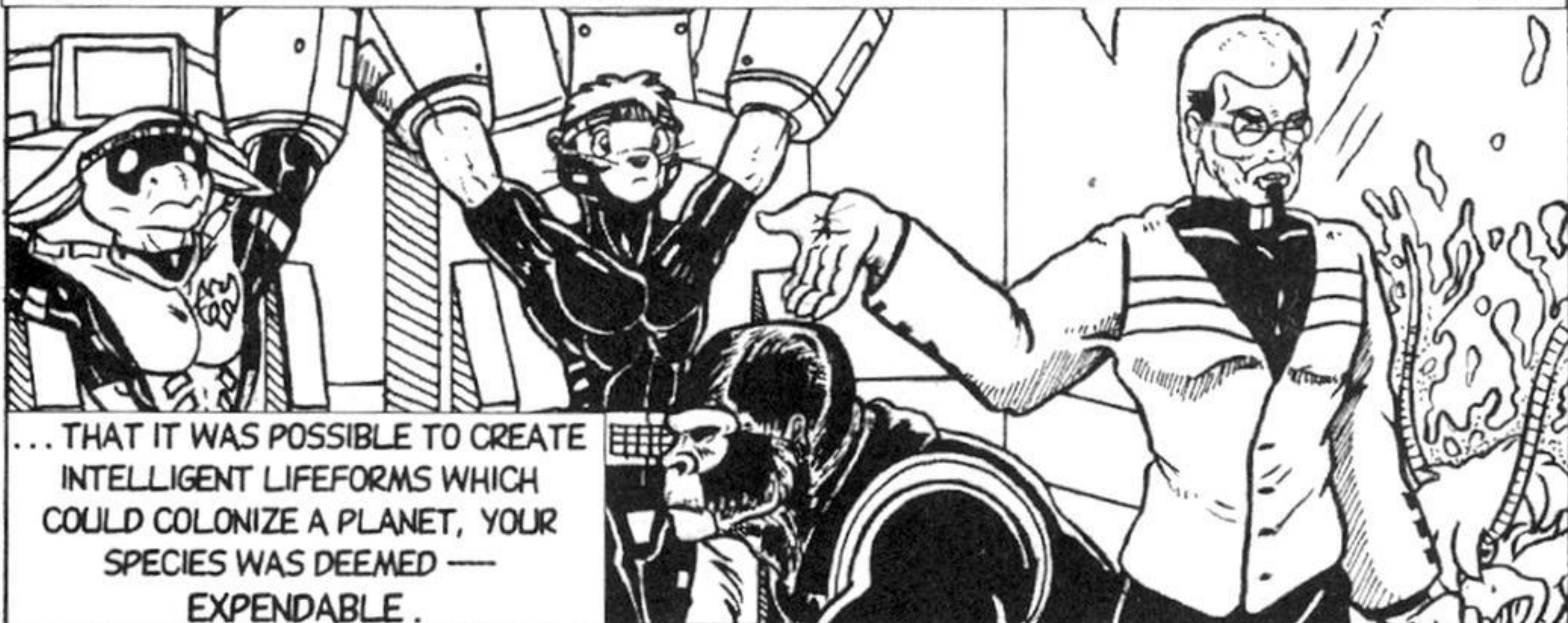
THIS TIME - LAPSE OBVIOUSLY ALLOWED YOU TO EVOLVE INTO WHAT YOU ARE NOW . ALTHOUGH , THE DEVELOPMENT OF YOUR HYBRID - DNA IS QUITE UNEXPECTED

FORTUNATE THAT WE
DIDN'T INTRODUCE ANY
PRIMATE SPECIES INTO
THIS ENVIRONMENT, EH,
WARFARE? OTHERWISE
WE MIGHT HAVE A CHAL-
LENGE FOR THE PLANET.



WHAT OF MY WORLD?
WHY DESTROY MY WORLD
AND HER CREATURES?
WE HAD NOTHING
TO DO WITH YOUR PLANS.

AH, THAT'S WHERE YOU'RE WRONG. YOUR SPECIES WAS THE FIRST CREATED IN GENETIC AND TERRA-
FORMING EXPERIMENTS. OUR LAB TECHS GOT .. CREATIVE IN YOUR DESIGN. ONCE IT WAS DETERMINED



... THAT IT WAS POSSIBLE TO CREATE
INTELLIGENT LIFEFORMS WHICH
COULD COLONIZE A PLANET, YOUR
SPECIES WAS DEEMED —
EXPENDABLE.

YOU
ARE
ONLY
ALIVE AS A
REMINDER
OF OUR
CHILDISH
ATTEMPTS
TO CREATE
CREATURES
OF
FANTASY.

USELESS.



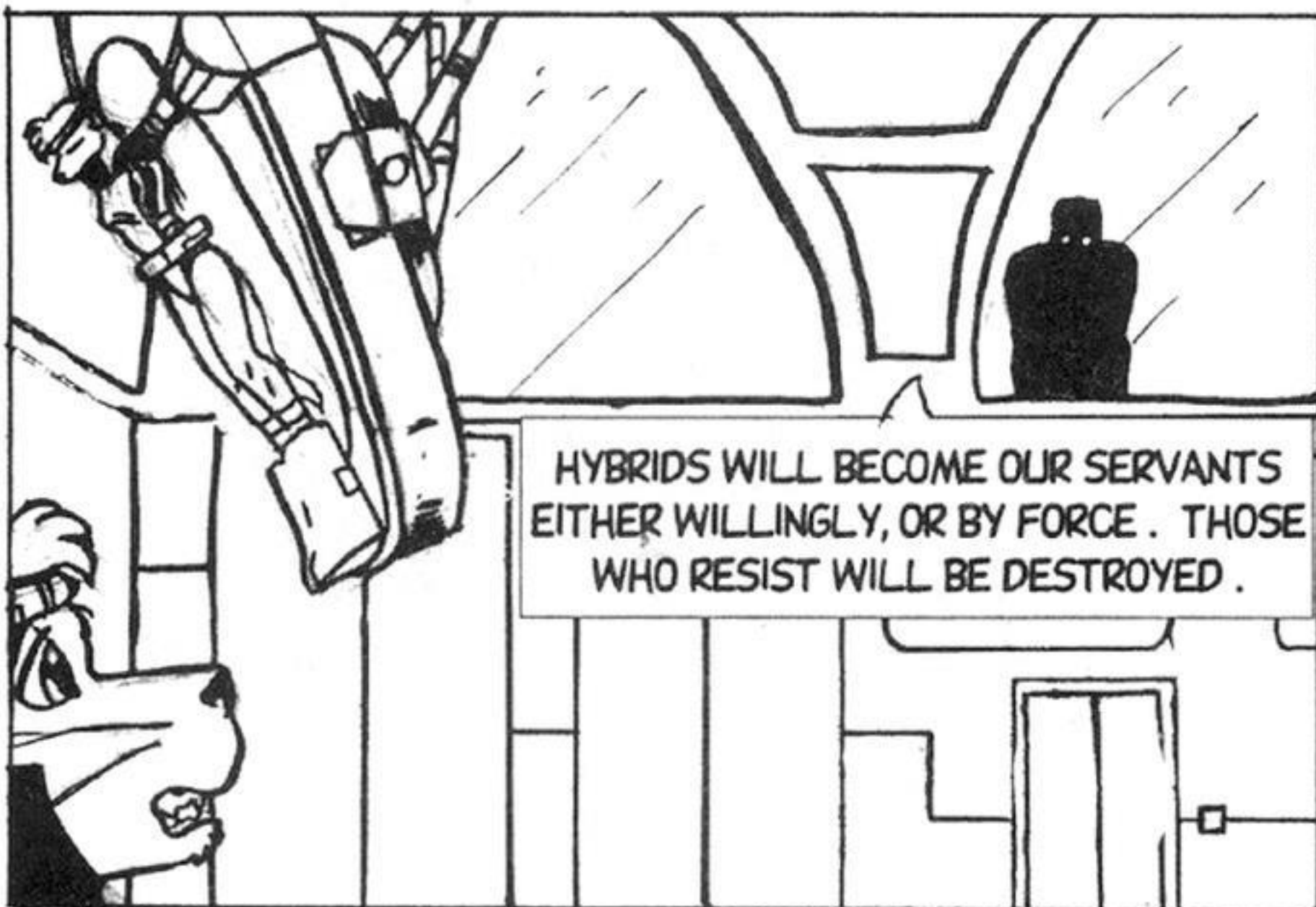
SO ...
NOW
WHAT
WILL YOU
DO
WITH
US?



YOU
WILL BE
STUDIED,
TO GAIN
UNDER-
STANDING
OF YOUR
POWERS,
THEN
DESTROYED.
YOU ARE
TOO
DANGEROUS
AND
REBELLIOUS
TO KEEP
ALIVE.



THE RE-
CLAIMING
OF THE
PLANET
BEGINS
IN
TWENTY
MINUTES.



HYBRIDS WILL BECOME OUR SERVANTS
EITHER WILLINGLY, OR BY FORCE. THOSE
WHO RESIST WILL BE DESTROYED.

ALSO,
THE
REST
OF THE
POPULOUS
WILL
BECOME
WILLING SERVANTS AND PETS,
OR THEY, TOO, WILL BE
DESTROYED.



BA 'JER, BEGIN THE MINDSWIPE ...

YES, MASTER.

... AND PREPARE
THE HUNTERS.



AAAARRRGH!!!

AAARRGHH!!!

WHAT IS THIS INTERRUPTION, CAT ?

APOLOGIES, MASTER. I HAVE

BROUGHT
THE TWO FEMALE
PRISONERS YOU
SENT FOR.

OKAY MICRO. WE'LL MAKE A

DIVERSION
WHILE YOU
GET TO THE
COMPUTER
SYSTEM
AND SHUT
THIS
PLACE
DOWN.

GET
READY

NOW !

CRASH!

FREE !

MAHN,
I'LL
MAKE
YOU
PAY
FOR
WHAT
YOU
DID
TO
ME !

QUICK ! FREE THEM WHILE WE HAVE THE CHANCE !

NO PROBLEM
ON MY END !

WHY THOSE LITTLE PUNKS . BOSS , YOU THINK I . .

NO , BA 'JER .
HAVE THE OTHERS
ON
STANDBY .

WARFARE , ELIMINATE THESE PESTS FOR ME .

NO .

NO!

WHAT?! I GAVE
YOU AN ORDER, YOU
STUPID BEAST ...



KILL THEM!!!

NO! I AM NOT STUPID, AND
I WILL NOT OBEY YOU ANYMORE.
I WILL NOT TAKE ANOTHER
INNOCENT LIFE.
NEVER AGAIN!



HMMPH. I FELT MY CONTROL OVER
YOU WAS LOOSENING. VERY WELL.
IF YOU WILL NOT OBEY ME ...
YOU CAN DIE WITH THE OTHERS.

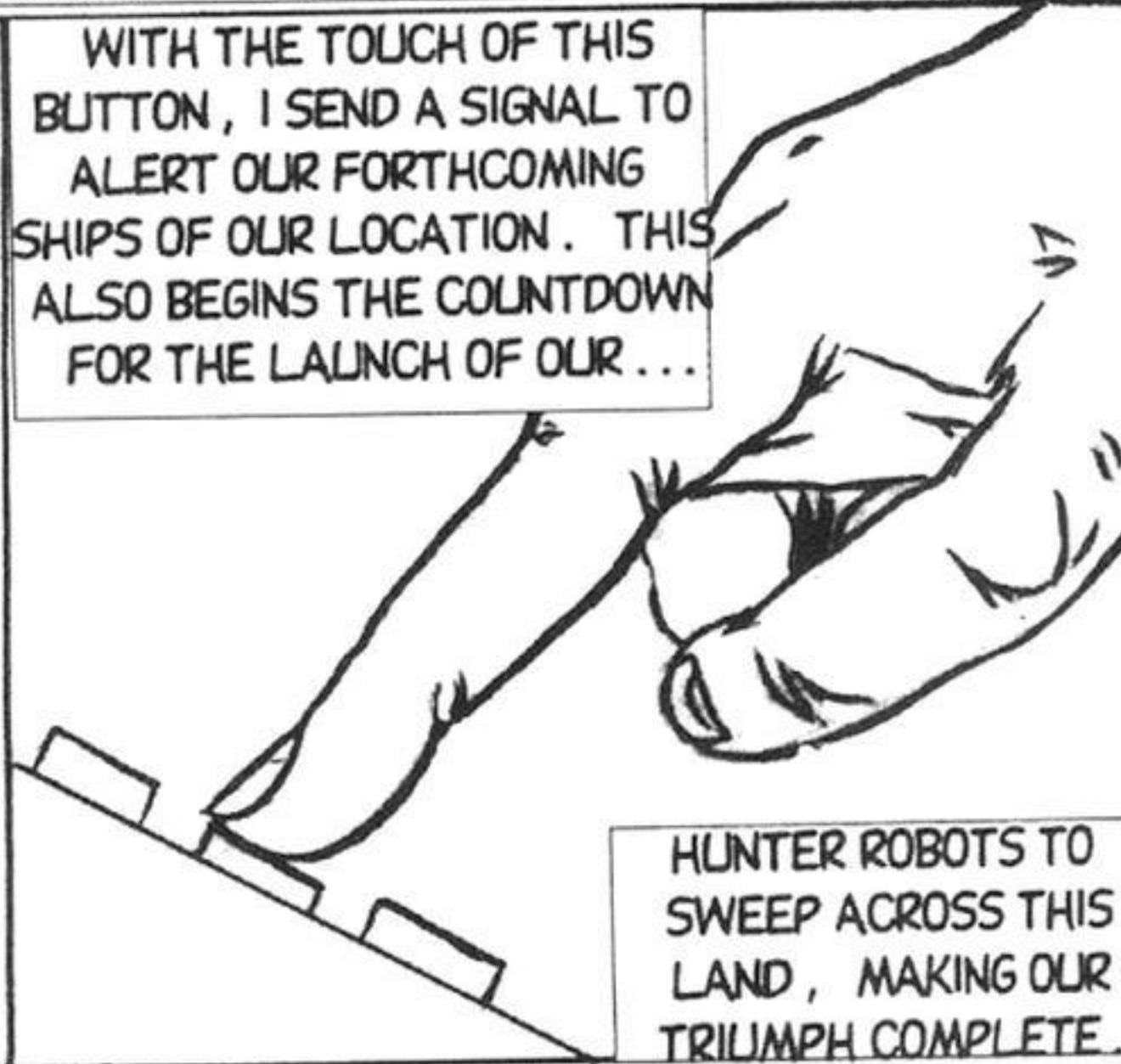


FAT CHANCE,
CHUMP. WE WON'T
STAND BY ...



... AND WATCH THIS WORLD BECOME EXTINCT — LIKE THE WORLD YOU LEFT BEHIND!

WITH THE TOUCH OF THIS
BUTTON, I SEND A SIGNAL TO
ALERT OUR FORTHCOMING
SHIPS OF OUR LOCATION. THIS
ALSO BEGINS THE COUNTDOWN
FOR THE LAUNCH OF OUR ...



HUNTER ROBOTS TO
SWEEP ACROSS THIS
LAND, MAKING OUR
TRIUMPH COMPLETE.

BOAST ALL YOU
WANT, BIRD. THE
COMING OF
HUMANKIND WILL
NOT BE
DELAYED. I AM THE
MESSENGER OF
OUR RETURN.



YES, PHOENIX. WITNESS THE COMING OF
THIS WORLD'S MAKERS, AND THE EXTINCTION

OF LIFE AS
YOU KNOW IT.

SOON HUMANKIND
WILL ONCE AGAIN
RECLAIM THE
EARTH!

TO BE CONCLUDED ...